



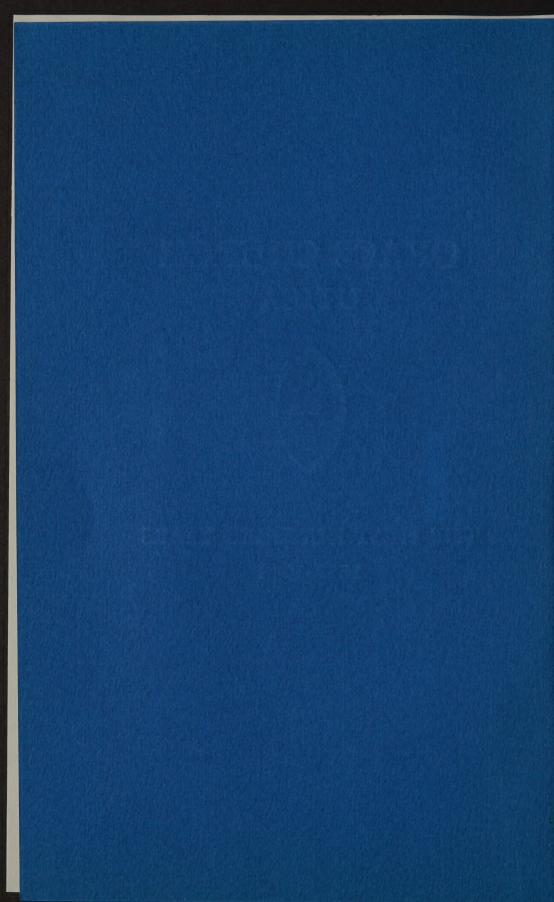
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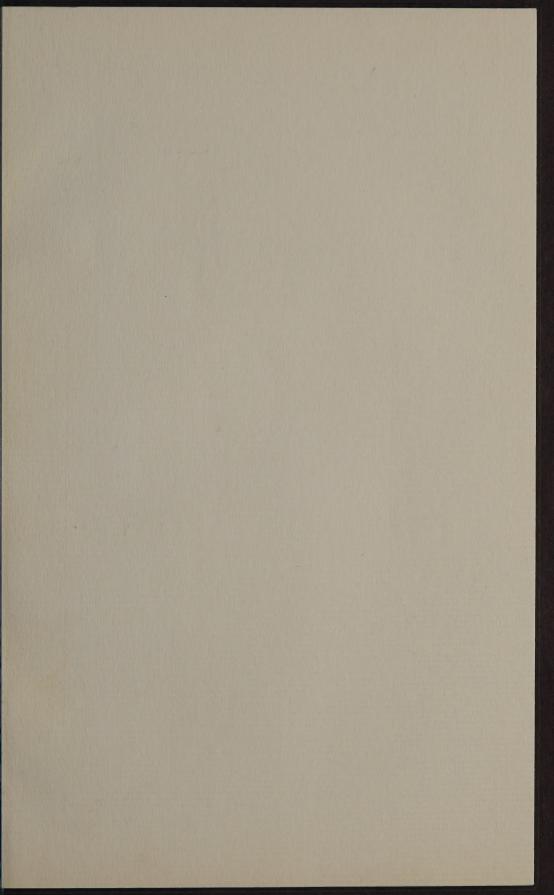
GRACE CHURCH UTICA

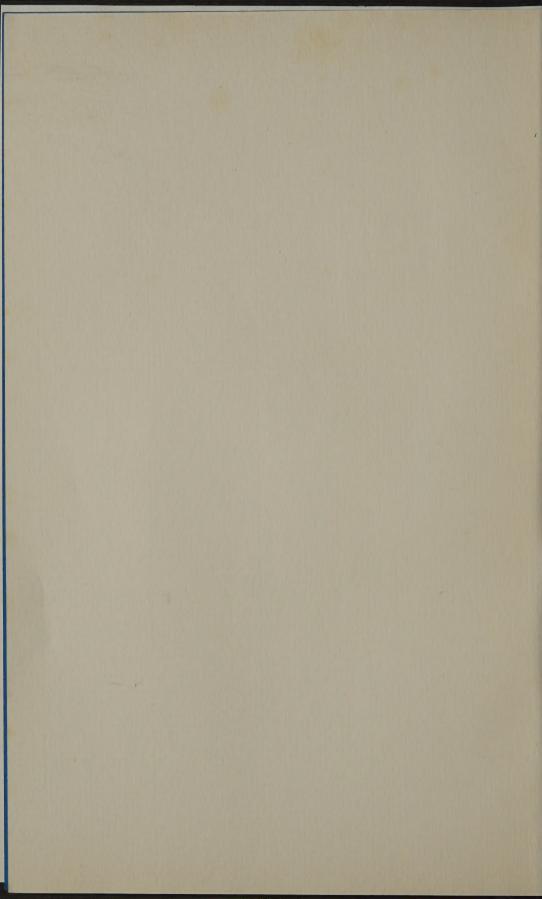


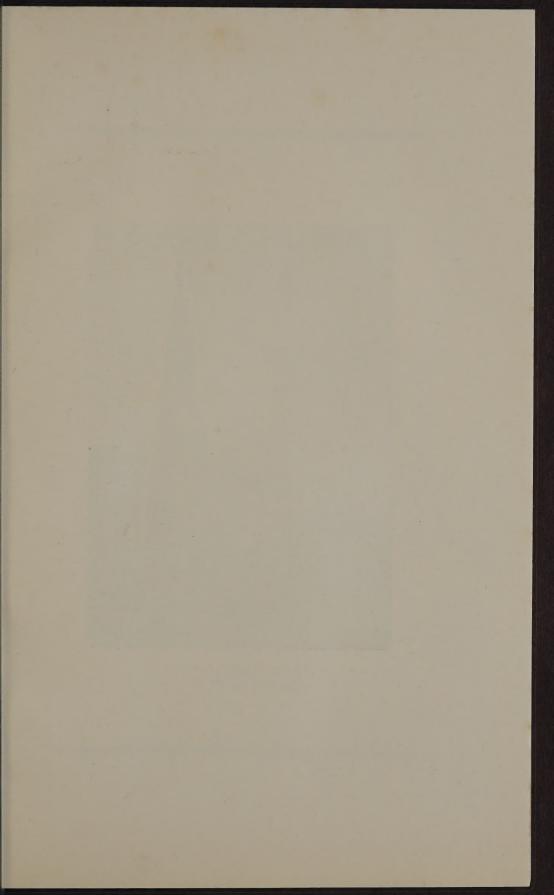
THE FIRST HUNDRED YEARS

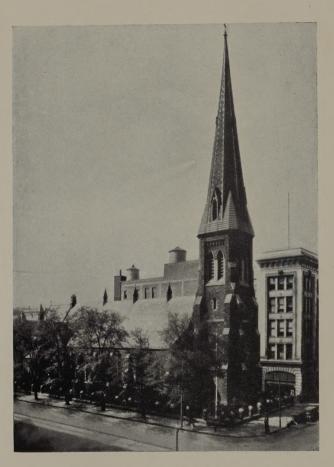
1838-1938











GRACE CHURCH, UTICA Consecrated August 16th, 1864

GRACE CHURCH UTICA

The First Hundred Years 1838 - 1938

Compiled by Rev'd Harold E. Sawyer, M.A.



FOREWORD

It is with the greatest happiness that I dedicate this brief history of our beloved Grace Church to all my friends in the Parish. The accomplishment of one hundred years, covering seven Rectorships before my own, and the lives of thousands of faithful, loyal members is something of which we can be extremely proud.

May you, my dear people, and I your Rector be found worthy of all those who have gone before and who have labored abundantly that Grace Church might live. May God continue to bless our Parish during the next One Hundred Years.

HAROLD E. SAWYER

May 21st, 1938



THE RECTOR

GRACE CHURCH, UTICA The First Hundred Years

Which a past generation held dear is subjected to the closest scrutiny, if not entirely overthrown, when supposed foundations in our economic, social and moral living are being torn asunder, some of us still love to look back. In this era old age is not popular, even if dignified, and even middle age is hardly tolerable, so eager are we to press forward to progress and more progress. Erroneously it seems to us the present generation is trying to grow without roots, to build without foundations, to go forth without tradition. Because of this fact, it also seems to us, we often find ourselves in situations which seem overwhelming.

In view of these things it is good to celebrate the one hundredth year of the existence of any institution. An organization, secular or religious, which has weathered a century of life is worthy, not only of respect but of festival and rejoicing, for no such organization could possibly have fulfilled these days except by the good Providence of God. It is with these thoughts in mind that we turn to review the more than splendid life of Grace Church, Utica, during her first hundred years of existence. We pray that this Parish may by the same help and protection of God, fulfill many more centuries of usefulness.

The work of the writer of these historical notes is made simple to a large extent by my predecessors, the Rev'd Charles Tyler Olmsted, later Bishop of Central New York, and the Rev'd Dr. John J. Brandegee, both of whom left important historical data. Indeed I shall use the accounts left behind by these two distinguished Rectors, that by Bishop Olmsted written for the fiftieth anniversary of the Parish, and again for the seventy-

fifth anniversary; and the pastoral letters of Dr. Brandegee, copies of which are found in the original Register of the Parish together with a historical memoir by an anonymous writer dealing with the events of Dr. Brandegee's rectorship. I make no apology for doing this since these men were contemporaries of the events recorded and thus would be beyond any flaw of inaccuracy, but chiefly because they were so exquisitely written that one would be unwilling to attempt to improve upon them. Their accounts are thus freely used for the period of the rectorships up to the time of Dr. Van Deusen's coming, and in some instances, later.

Trinity Church, Utica, the venerable and honored Mother Parish of the city, had for some forty years or thereabouts been doing her good work alone, "according to the Apostolic order of our Church," as the Rector expressed it—and that she had done it well, is proved by the vigorous colony which she was able to plant in this part of the town in the spring of 1838, without materially injuring her own existence and prosperity. It certainly indicates a considerable degree of strength on the part of Trinity Church, that she could spare such a number of substantial men and women as came together for the formation of this new parish so many years ago; and I have no doubt that we owe it to the faithfulness of the early Rectors and people of Trinity Church in laving good foundations, that the Church is today exceptionally strong in Utica. The following are the names of the men, members of the congregation of Trinity Church who united in a letter to the Rev'd Dr. Proal, their respected Rector, stating their desire to organize a new Parish, and asking his canonical consent:

Elisha Wells, Ziba Lyon, Simon V. Oley, James Watson Williams, A. Little, H. S. Bradley, Gerry Sanger, Peleg B. Peckham, Wm. Bristol, E. F. Benjamin, Isaiah Tiffany, Chas. S. Wilson, Geo. Jas. Hopper, John E. Hinman, F. Hollister, Alex. S. Johnson, H. H. Williams

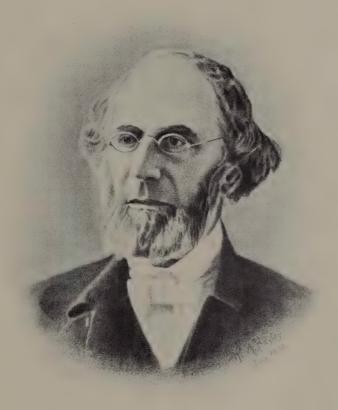
and Eli Maynard—eighteen in all—besides whom, in the list of first male communicants, I find the names of Philemon Lyon and J. Durkee. In a very courteous and kind reply, Dr. Proal gave his full permission to them to proceed in their undertaking, while at the same time he expressed his devout prayer that "the Divine Head of his Church would further this effort for extending 'Evangelical truth and Apostolic Order,' to the promoting of the glory of God and the edifying of his people." May we not say today, dear friends, without over-confidence or too much self-gratulation, that this prayer of God's Priest has been heard, and that his blessing then pronounced upon the setting of this slip has been in some measure fulfilled?

There was then living in this town a clergyman with no parochial charge. He was the principal of a school, and also editor, as he was the originator, of the Gospel Messenger, the Rev'd John C. Rudd, D.D. To him this little band of Church people seem to have looked for clerical ministrations until they could call a Rector. The first service, however, which was held in April 1838, in an upper room of No. 215 Genesee Street, was conducted by the Rev'd Stephen McHugh, of Holland Patent. On the 4th Sunday after Easter, May 13th, a sermon was preached before the new congregation by Mr. McHugh, intended to encourage them to proceed with the organization of their Parish. And on Monday, May 21st, a meeting was held when the Parish was duly incorporated under the name of Grace Church, Utica, and a vestry of two Wardens and eight Vestrymen was elected, as follows: Wardens, Dr. P. B. Peckham and Ziba Lyon; Vestrymen, Jas. Watson Williams, John E. Hinman, I. Tiffany, Chas. S. Wilson, Eli Maynard, Alex. S. Johnson, Jas. M. Stocking and Jas. M. Lewis, the last two names, Mr. Stocking and Mr. Lewis not having appeared in the subscription of the letter before mentioned, and to these may also be added Mr. David Wager and probably Mr. Henry S. Cole. We find, therefore,

that there were at least twenty-four men, besides women and children, who were actively interested in the new venture. There was, however, no great wealth among them, so far as I can ascertain, and the task of supporting a Rector and of providing a suitable place for the public worship of God was not by any means a light one for that little flock. But they were not discouraged. In less than three months after their organization, on August 16th, the vestry elected and called as the Rector the Rev'd Chas. H. Halsey, and at the same meeting a movement was inaugurated for the "procuring of a more commodious place of worship." During that summer the Rev'd Clement M. Butler, being for a time without a Parish, officiated in the upper room on Genesee Street, but he never assumed the office of Rector of Grace Church. Nor did Mr. Halsey favour the Parish with his official services. For some reason unknown to us, he declined the call which had been extended to him. and the little congregation went on for a year without a Rector.

At last, in the spring of 1839, the Rev'd Albert Clark Patterson accepted that position, and entered upon his duties some time in the summer. The scheme for the building of a church, which had naturally dragged a little while the Parish was without a leader, was now taken up with greater vigor. Subscriptions were obtained for the purpose, and a plot of ground was leased from Mr. Apollos Cooper for a term of ten years, with the privilege of purchase at the expiration of that period. This lot was situated at the corner of Broadway and Columbia Streets, and there, during the summer of 1839, the first Grace Church was erected, and was opened for Divine service in August.

Thus, then, after patient waiting and working, dwelling in their transitory tabernacle on the second floor of a common house more than a year, the new Parish was comfortably settled in its own little Church, with a Rector whom the people loved ministering at its altar,



The Rev'd Albert C. Patterson First Rector, 1839 - 1843



feeding them with the Bread of Life and leading them in the ways of truth and peace. This church building, a wooden structure, was used for about twenty-one years. At first there were sixty pews in this building, but in less than two years it had to be enlarged and thirty-two more pews were added, to accommodate the increasing congregation. The subject of a larger and more permanent Church, in a more desirable location, was talked of as early as 1847, and in 1851 a few subscriptions were obtained, and plans were secured from the elder Upjohn, after which, in general outline, the present building was eventually erected. But it proved to be a slow and difficult undertaking.

Meanwhile, there had been changes also in the rectorship. Mr. Patterson's health had given out in 1843, and he was compelled to resign, and was succeeded by the Rev'd George Leeds, D.D., from Salem, Massachusetts—a man who became quite prominent in the Church afterwards as the Rector of large Parishes in Philadelphia and Baltimore, and as a candidate for the Episcopate in Central New York in 1868, when the Diocese of Western New York was divided. Mrs. Leeds died while they were here and was buried on Forest Hill, and it was his custom to come to Utica every year, as long as he lived, to visit her grave; and when he died in 1885 he was laid by her side. Dr. Leeds remained in charge here about ten years, and was greatly beloved by the people, but finding that the Parish was bent upon having the new Church, and not feeling himself quite equal to the undertaking, he resigned in 1853.

Very fortunately for us we have a complete account of the ministry of the next Rector, the Rev'd John J. Brandegee, D. D. written immediately after his death and entered in the Parish Register of Grace Church. As it gives us the account of Dr. Brandegee's rectorship in review at very close range, it is exceedingly valuable for our present purpose and we therefore print it in full. Also we give several of Dr. Brandegee's Pastoral

Letters, written in connection with the building of the Church, which show us the history of its erection clearly and personally. Happily these have also been preserved in the Parish Register.

In January 1854, Mr. Brandegee, then officiating as the Rector of St. Michael's Church, Litchfield, Connecticut, was elected Rector of Grace Church, Utica, by the vestry of that Church, on the resignation of the Rev'd George Leeds. He soon afterwards visited the Parish and preached in the Church, after which the call was renewed by a unanimous vote of the vestry and he entered upon his duties on the fifth Sunday after Epiphany, February 5th, 1854.

The congregation was then worshipping in the frame building erected by the Parish on a lot under a lease for years, at the corner of Broadway and Columbia Streets. The late Alfred Munson was a member of the congregation and, shortly prior to the call of the Rev'd Mr. Brandegee, had engaged warmly in the enterprise of erecting a more permanent church edifice. had for that purpose secured and vested in his own name the title to the ground at the corner of Genesee and Elizabeth Streets on which the present Church and Chapel were subsequently built, and had procured plans and elevations to be drawn, under the direction of the eminent architect, Richard Upjohn, Esq., of the city of The effort, however, at that time failed New York. from the inability of the Parish to encounter the expense. Soon after the commencement of Mr. Brandegee's ministry Mr. Munson's health declined and he died on the sixth day of May 1854, universally respected by the Parish and the whole community. By his will, executed during his last illness, he made the following provision for the object which had so greatly interested him:

"I give and bequeath to Grace Church, Utica, the sum of ten thousand dollars, towards purchasing a lot for the erection of a Church edifice thereon, according to

the plans, designs, elevations, and specifications heretofore made, by Richard Upjohn, Architect, and not otherwise; except with the advice and consent of said Upjohn, as to such details as will not impair the general design and plan, and except that the chancel plan and elevation may be reduced in depth by omitting one window on each side if thought advisable. I further give and bequeath to Grace Church, Utica, the sum of five thousand dollars for the following purposes, viz: For improving the grounds, \$1,000: for erecting a Sunday School room in rear of the Church, \$1,000: for a Sunday School Library, \$500: for church furniture. \$500. But these beguests for purchasing a lot, erecting an edifice and for the other purposes above specified are made upon the express condition that the Parish of Grace Church, Utica, shall within two years after my decease cause to be raised by a bona fide subscription of solvent persons an amount at least equal to the amount of the said bequests, and for the like purposes: or if that shall be found insufficient, on a careful and accurate estimate of the cost, then said Parish is in like manner to raise such further sum, as may be necessary to carry out completely and fully the purposes of my said bequests; and I do hereby direct my Executors to pay the said bequests, in the same manner, and at the same time, as the subscriptions raised by said Parish shall be paid."

During the winter of 1855-6, the subject indicated having been introduced to the vestry by the Rev'd Mr. Brandegee, the Rector, it underwent much discussion and anxious deliberation. Though the amount required to be raised in the Parish appeared to be scarcely within its ability, it was determined that the effort should be made, and books of subscription were accordingly opened. The burden of presenting the subject to the members of the congregation devolved for the most part upon the Rector; and from the time of the commencement of the effort, in the early part of the year 1856,



with energy throughout the year during which the outer walls were erected and the roof laid, thus enclosing the building.

In the meantime, the Rector had been strongly impressed with the expediency of having erected a suitable building for a Chapel, to accommodate the Sunday School and for occasional services. The nucleus of a fund for that purpose had already been secured in the offerings of the Sunday School children. The ground was ample in extent, and the advantage and saving of expense in building it in connection with the edifice were obvious. The Rector accordingly procured plans from the architect of the Church and sought and obtained permission of the vestry to proceed with the additional building. He took wholly upon himself the labour of carrying forward the enterprise and devoted much of his time to it during the ensuing winter. The ladies of the Parish cheerfully devoted the earnings of their Society to this object and a few of the other members of the Parish contributed small sums in aid of the work, in addition to their general subscriptions to the Church building fund.

The Pastoral Letter, dated Epiphany 1858, was printed and circulated among the ladies just before the Lenten season and led to very favorable results. The ensuing Easter offerings, which were set apart for the object, produced \$600, the larger part of it in gold. The Sunday School anniversary was observed in the afternoon of the same day and resulted in offerings to the amount of \$180. These contributions, together with the sums given by a few individuals, seemed sufficiently encouraging to warrant the commencement of the work on the Chapel, and excavations for the foundations were accordingly commenced early in the spring of 1858.

At a special visitation of Bishop De Lancey to the Parish for confirmation on the 17th of May, 1858, occasion was taken to lay the cornerstone of the Chapel. The Bishop, clergy and congregation moved in proces-

sion from the old Church, where confirmation had been held, to the site of the Chapel where appropriate services were observed and the cornerstone laid by the Bishop. The Sunday School had a prominent part on this occasion, chanting the *Gloria in Excelsis* at the close of the Bishop's address. The clergy present, besides the Rector were the Rev'd Messrs. Perry, Baker, Smith, I. S. Shipman, Gibson, Hayes and N. Barrows.

At this period, when everything seemed prosperous and hopeful, the parish was visited in the Providence of God with affliction and trouble. The devoted and persevering labors of the Rector were suspended by a severe and protracted sickness which threatened his life. He was obliged for three successive years to leave the Parish and his home and spend the winters at Saint Paul, Minnesota, that climate being considered more favorable to his health, returning to spend the summer seasons at Utica. "For a happy deliverance from the great peril which encompassed him," the journal which he kept records "his unfeigned gratitude to God who alone raised him up to continue his beloved work for a space longer." During his absence the Parish was in the temporary charge successively of the Rev'd I. M. Clark and the Rev'd W. T. Gibson.

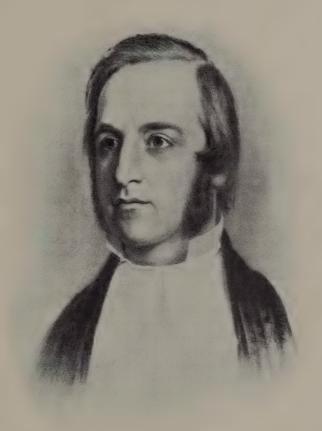
Nor was this the only trial which the Parish at this time encountered. The completion of the Church was interrupted. The pecuniary difficulties of that period checked the subscriptions to the building fund and some payments upon which reliance had been placed failed to be made, while at the same time some of the work proved more expensive than had been estimated. Under these adverse circumstances the fortitude and persistence of the Rector never for a moment faltered. He again took the subscription book in hand, the crisis arising in the part of the year during which he was enabled to remain in Utica, previous to his second return to Saint Paul, and addressed his parishioners in a printed form in the Pastoral Letter, dated September

1859. By God's blessing upon these efforts the crisis was averted and by the additional subscriptions together with the loan suggested, which was kindly extended by Mr. Silas D. Childs, sufficient funds were obtained to discharge the debts and proceed towards the completion of the Church, which was happily accomplished in the spring of the year 1860, four years from the commencement of the undertaking. During this time the ladies of the congregation were not idle, but with ready hands and willing hearts had, by their unremitting industry, raised a fund which had gradually accumulated to nearly the sum of \$2,000. This was placed at the disposal of the vestry and judiciously expended in carpeting the Church and cushioning the pews.

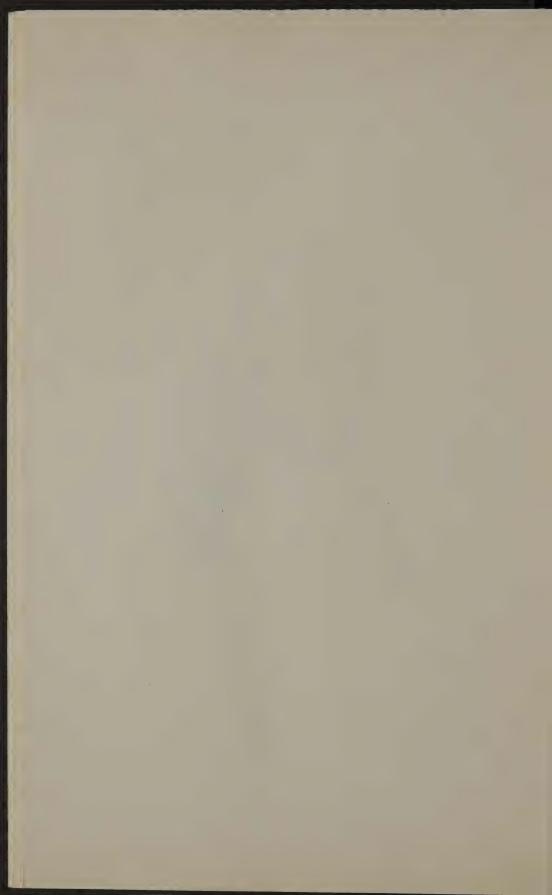
The last service in the former building was held on the 15th of April 1860, and on the Sunday after Ascension, the 20th of May following, after so many vicissitudes and trials, the congregation were by the blessing of God enabled for the first time to call upon His Name in an edifice not wholly unworthy of the sacred purposes for which it was constructed. The Chapel was soon after completed, and was first opened for its appropriate uses on the 20th day of August of the same year in a special dedicatory service. In addition to the funds for its construction, which have been mentioned, the legacy for that special purpose not being available, the Rector was permitted to expend \$1,000—the amount of his second subscription to the building fund for the completion of the Chapel. The aggregate cost of that building cannot be stated with any approximation to accuracy. As has been mentioned, Mr. Brandegee personally assumed the responsibility of the undertaking, making the contracts himself and ultimately defrayed from his own means whatever remained after applying the other resources referred to. The amount of that residue can never be ascertained, though it is known to have been considerable.

It should be stated that the books for the Chancel and reading desk were the spontaneous offering of the young men of the parish, with the gas fixtures of the nave—those in the Chancel and gables, being selected afterward by the Rector, an Easter offering from the congregation. The stained glass windows of the Chapel were the voluntary gift of the young ladies. The Church is indebted to Mrs. Samuel Beardsley for the Font, she having furnished it principally at her own cost.

It has been remarked that the vestry was obliged to encumber the Church lots, and buildings with a debt of \$10,000. This was secured by a mortgage and the individual guaranty of several members of the vestry and congregation. The payment of the semi-annual interest upon this considerable sum required a most inconvenient deduction from the resources of the Parish, which consisted only of the rents of the pews, and left remaining an amount scarcely sufficient to defray the other necessary expenses, with the salary of the minister limited to an amount much less than would be required for the comfortable support of a family. It was not. however, for the last mentioned reason but on account of the general interests of the Parish and the propriety of consecrating the Church, which could not be done while it continued encumbered with debt, that the Rector became anxiously and even painfully impressed with the necessity of removing the burden. About the commencement of the year 1863, after a consultation with the members of the vestry, in a moving address from the pulpit he earnestly recommended a collection to be made after the morning sermon on two Sundays of each month for the object indicated. The plan was reasonably successful and before the close of a year it was found that the proceeds of these collections and some considerable additions cheerfully contributed by the Sunday School children and the Ladies' Society had enabled the vestry to discharge \$1,000 of the debt, which was accordingly paid.



The Rev'd John J. Brandegee, D. D. Third Rector, 1854-1864



The last of the series of pastoral letters was issued at this time. It exhibits the intense interest felt by the Rector in accomplishing this, the last as it proved, of the beneficent purposes of his life. The collections were continued but it was apparent that many years would be required to liquidate the entire indebtedness. Perhaps he foresaw that he might not live to see its accomplishment at the rate it was being prosecuted. However this may be, he soon afterward determined to initiate an effort to discharge the whole remainder of the debt at once. He accordingly drew up a new subscription paper on the sixth day of Lent 1864 with his own hand and circulated it among his parishioners by whom it was very favorably received. As the Easter season approached it became apparent that it was practicable to consummate the effort by the ensuing Easter Sunday. He therefore recommended that on that day the sums which should have been subscribed and the further amounts which might be then contributed should be laid upon the altar in money and obligations at the morning service. That plan was adopted, but just before Easter he was stricken down by the illness which a little later terminated his earthly labours. Though ill able to leave his house he was in the Chancel, at his wonted place. Morning Prayer was read by the Rev'd Mr. Kern of New Hartford, who also preached, after which Dr. Brandegee, though suffering from the fever which soon proved fatal, consecrated and administered the Holy Communion to his beloved flock—for the last time.

On counting the offerings it was found that sufficient had been realized—nearly \$8,500—to accomplish the purpose. The mortgage was soon afterward cancelled of record.

Thus he was permitted to see the dearest of his earthly wishes, the extrication from debt of that house which for about eight years had occupied so much of his labours and prayers, fully realised: and this closed his

devoted and useful life, for he was never able to enter again the House of God. He died on the sixth of April following, ten days after Easter: and we may be permitted to believe that no purer or more unselfish spirit ever took its flight from this world of trial to the abodes of the blessed in Heaven.

At the funeral, which took place on Sunday afternoon, April 10th, 1864, the church was appropriately draped with emblems of mourning, and offerings of grateful affection adorned the altar, the pulpit and the desk. The sermon was preached by the Rev'd Robert A. Hallam, D. D., of New London, Connecticut, the former Rector and life-long friend of the deceased, from Revelation I: 18. "I am He that liveth, and was dead; and behold, I am alive forevermore; and have the keys of hell and death." It was published at the request of the vestry, the Reverend author affixing to the title page the motto, "The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up."

It may be mentioned that at the annual commencements of Hamilton College and of Hobart College in the summer of 1863 Mr. Brandegee was raised to the academic degree of Doctor of Divinity, simultaneously by both these institutions.*

The Consecration of Grace Church took place on the 16th of August 1864, four months after the decease of Dr. Brandegee whose heart had been so much interested in its erection and whose unsparing efforts as the last work of his useful life had finally succeeded in removing all impediments to this much desired consummation, though not with mortal eyes permitted to behold it or to join in the solemn services attendant upon it. His absence cast a shadow of sadness on many hearts, so that the occasion became one of

^{*}The statue of the Good Shepherd on the wall of the North Transept was erected to his memory, but certainly it may be said of him in Grace Church, as it was said in St. Paul's Cathedral, London, of Sir Christopher Wren, the architect: "Si monumentum quaeris, circumspice."—"If you ask for his monument, look about you."

strangely blended joy and sorrow and, as at the laying of the cornerstone of the Temple, after the captivity, "the people could not discern the shout of joy from the noise of the weeping of the people."

The Altar and Font were richly decorated with offerings of fragrant flowers and emblems, and on the vacant pulpit was a tablet inscribed "In Memoriam," wreathed with choice white flowers. As it was the day preceding the meeting of the annual Convention of the Diocese which was to assemble in the Church many clergy were Bishop De Lancey, infirm and broken with disease, officiated in the Consecration service. Dr. Leeds. the predecessor of Dr. Brandegee, was to have preached on the occasion, but owing to an unfortunate mistake, failed to be present. The Right Rev'd Horatio Potter, D. D., Bishop of New York, preached in his place an appropriate and impressive sermon. The services were as follows:— the Bishops were received at the entrance of the Church by the Wardens and Vestry and proceeded up the aisle to the Altar, followed by about fifty of the clergy in surplices, repeating alternately the Twenty-fourth Psalm. The instruments of donation and endowment being presented to the Bishop, the service continued as prescribed. The Sentence of Consecration was read by the Rev'd W. R. Harris; Proper Lessons by Dr. Coxe, Rector of Trinity Church and the Rev'd Mr. Goodrich of Calvary Church; Prayers were read by Dr. Hallam of St. James' Church, New London. Connecticut.

The confirmation of a class of 20 adults followed this solemn service, presented by Mr. Harris, Assistant of the late Rector and minister in temporary charge. They were addressed briefly by Bishop De Lancey, after which the consecration sermon was preached. So all departed, feeling that now the work of a beloved disciple had received its earthly completion. And many thanked God for his good example and asked grace to follow him.

The next day, August 17th, 1864, the Convention of the Diocese assembled in Grace Church and before the week closed had elected, by request of Bishop De Lancey, an Assistant Bishop. The lot fell upon Arthur Cleveland Coxe, D.D. of New York.

Dated. Easter Season. A.D. 1865, Utica, N.Y.

Pastoral Letter To the Ladies of Grace Church

Your Pastor takes this method of addressing the Ladies of his Parish upon a subject which lies very near to his heart, and which he cannot doubt is of scarcely less interest to them. It relates to the building of a suitable Chapel and Sunday School Room in connection with the new Church. The exceeding great importance of the object to the best interests of the Parish needs hardly to be enlarged upon, as it will be readily admitted by all, and by none more fully appreciated, than by the Christian mothers and pious females who will intuitively sympathize with the purposes it is designed to subserve. To them, indeed this enterprise makes a special appeal, and, if successfully accomplished, theirs will be the principal credit and reward.

Many reasons conspire to make it highly important that the proposed building should be put up during the ensuing season, some of which are as follows:—The legacy of \$1,500 donated by the late Mr. Munson for the benefit of the Sunday School, will thus be immediately secured and made available to its object. The plan and working drawings of the building, and the services of the architect, Mr. Upjohn, as well as the supervision and valuable services of the Master Mason, Mr. Jones, can be obtained without the least expense to the Parish. We can avail ourselves of the favorable contracts which have been made for labor and material in the construction of the Church edifice, for the Chapel also. They cover the purchase and drawing of the stone, as well as the working of it, the lime, brick and

other material. Five hundred dollars would be a moderate calculation for the saving which would be effected in the above mentioned respects. We thus secure the Parish against risk, losses, delays and dangers which otherwise would certainly retard, and might indefinitely prevent, the successful accomplishment of this enterprise. And finally, what is most earnestly desired by the Rector, as connected, in his judgment, very intimately with the temporal and spiritual prosperity of his charge, we shall thus possess, within a reasonable time, a comely. attractive and suitable Chapel, where the occasional services of the Church may be held to edification; where our children may be trained under the happiest associations and influences in the nurture of the Lord, and in obedience to His truth; where classes may meet together for instruction, societies for work, and godly men and women for mutual consultation and prayer; where, in short, good seed may continually be sown, and whence good works may abundantly proceed.

Situated as the Parish is at present, the Rector is loath to make a public appeal for this object, desirable as it is, nor would he wish to divert from the Church edifice any funds likely to be raised for its completion. Without doing either, a way he thinks is opened for immediate and efficient action, to which he now invites the sympathy and cooperation of every lady in the congregation.

For all the work necessary to be done upon the Chapel this season, that is to say, for putting up the walls and enclosing it, leaving it in about the condition in which the Church is now, will be required somewhere in the neighborhood of \$2,500. For this there is available, of funds already raised by the Sunday School and Ladies' Society, \$850. From Mr. Munson's legacy \$1,000—making \$1,850. Leaving a balance to be met of \$650. Our resources for this amount are the offerings of the Sunday School, voluntary gifts, and whatever can be realised from the Ladies.

Will these combined be inadequate to the work? I think not. I have the faith to believe that a vigorous effort on the part of all will be crowned with complete success. But it must be a hearty and a general effort. It must be begun in faith, continued in patience, and prosecuted with energy: then may we confidently hope that it will receive the Divine blessing, and secure its end. I would suggest, then, that every lady in the Parish would adopt one or the other of the following plans, as most practicable and most likely to secure the object in view.

First. Let every one, following the Apostolic rule, lay by weekly, according to her ability, a certain sum for the erection of the Chapel, which shall accumulate between this and Easter, and be presented on that glorious Festival upon the plate, as a free will offering to the service of the Lord. It would thus be an Easter alms, procured it may be by a Lenten self-denial, no less blessed to those who give, than grateful to the God who receives.

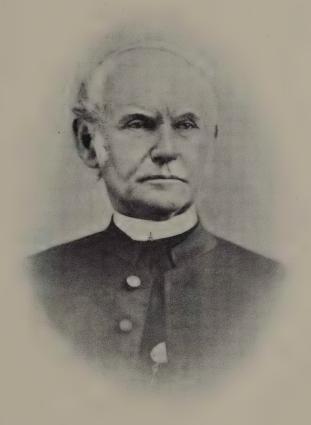
Or, let those who prefer so to do, set apart a fixed sum every week, to be brought or sent in, at the Thursday afternoon meeting, to the treasurer of the Ladies' Sewing Society.

While after Easter, and so long as may be necessary or expedient, such regular contributions as each may feel disposed to give to this object, may be sent in every week, or once a month, to the treasurer of the Society, Mrs. Wager, or to Mrs. Brandegee.

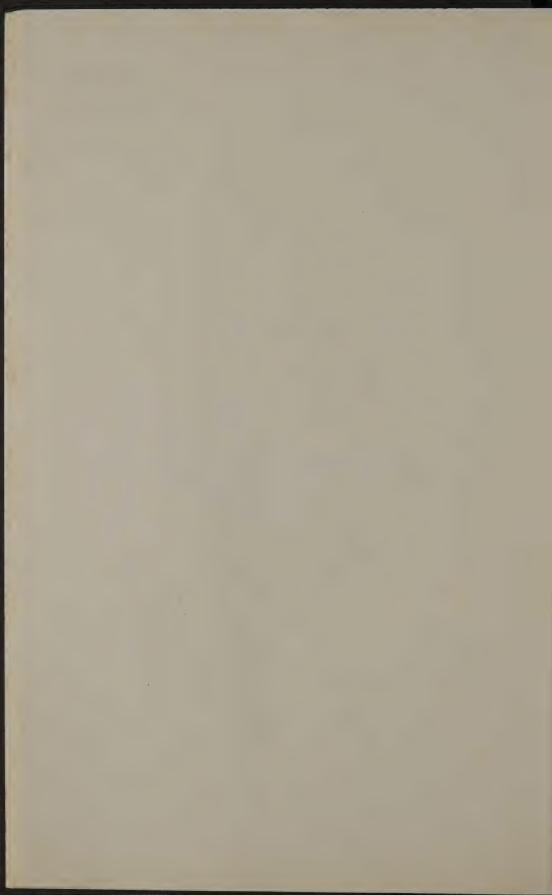
And let us see what faith, and prayer, and love and self-denial can do; what and how much the warm hearts and ready hands of Christian women can effect, when unitedly and earnestly engaged in advancing the glory of God, and promoting the welfare of His cause and Kingdom.

With sincere affection,
Your friend and Pastor
John J. Brandegee

Epiphany 1858



THE REV'D EDWIN M. VAN DEUSEN, D.D. Fourth Rector, 1864 - 1884



Pastoral Letter

To the Congregation of Grace Church, Utica

Beloved Parishioners and Friends:

After a long separation and many mutual trials, I am permitted in the good providence of God to address you with the pen, as I may not yet with my voice, upon a subject of unspeakable importance and interest to us both. I have returned from my weary wanderings, thankful, indeed, to be with you once more, yet not a little grieved to find my beloved parish in so much fear and anxiety, and the Church enterprise, which we have taken in hand, at the most critical period of its history. A few weeks or months, at the farthest, must determine whether, humanly speaking, we are, as a parish, to live or to die; whether we are to have a happy issue out of our manifold afflictions, or by them to be overwhelmed and confounded.

Without entering into all the particulars of our situation, it will answer my present purpose to say, that for the work already performed upon our new Church Edifice, we are indebted in the sum of \$15,000: that, for the further prosecution of that work to a point which will enable us to occupy the building for public worship, will require the additional sum of \$7,000. These figures, arrived at after the most careful estimates and thorough examination, are believed by the Rector and Vestry, to be entirely accurate and with the sum of \$22,000 in hand, they will pay off all existing liabilities, and proceed to complete and furnish the building for immediate use.

Well aware that in the present circumstances of the congregation it would be impossible to raise this large sum altogether by voluntary contributions, they purpose, as in their judgment, the only feasible mode of accomplishing this desirable result, to make a loan of \$10,000, which can be at once obtained, and which will remain

as a debt, and the only contemplated debt upon the Parish, secured by a mortgage of the property of the Corporation, and by the personal guaranty of the Vestry and others, on condition that a sum not less than \$12,000 be forthwith raised by voluntary subscription. That is to say, estimating the total amount of our present and prospective liabilities at \$22,000, it will be necessary to have a subscription of about \$12,000. This, it is purposed, shall be made payable, in all cases where the amount exceeds one hundred dollars, in four equal installments, extending from the 1st of November 1859. to the 1st of November 1860: and whenever the amount falls short of one hundred dollars, it is to be paid within three months from the time of subscription. It is positively determined that this subscription shall be a final one for the desired end, and that with it the great object of placing the congregation in possession and enjoyment of the new Church Edifice, shall be fully and satisfactorily accomplished at the earliest possible day.

The Rector and Vestry would further state that the subscription which was undertaken, but not consummated, in the spring, has again been revived, and is now made binding by the unanimous consent of the subscribers, and that it reaches the sum of \$7,500. It appears then, that about \$4.500 more is needed for our purpose. With that we shall succeed: without it we must fail. And failure, if the word can for a moment be entertained, involves results almost too deplorable to contemplate. For, look, my brethren, I entreat you. at the actual position of our affairs. We are heavily in debt; our creditors—and they are for the most part the mechanics and labourers, whose daily work is their daily bread—are clamorous for their hard earned, and justly due wages. A judgment is now impending upon the Corporation, which can only be averted by immediate action; all other means of relief have failed, and unless this prove successful, we are dishonoured in the face of the community, with the probable and bitter prospect before us of seeing the holy and beautiful House, built thus far with so much toil and sacrifice finally and forever pass out of our hands into those of strangers.

Such are the simple facts which are now presented and urged upon your consideration, startling and urgent enough, we cannot but think, to stimulate your utmost zeal and liberality. Shall they in this hour of rebuke and distress, be spread before you in vain? Shall we go before a Christian people, and a Church Parish with such an exhibit, to be doomed to mortification and ruin?

If it be replied to this statement and appeal, that grave mistakes have been committed in the commencement and prosecution of this enterprise; that there is just occasion for disappointment, and even censure upon those who have most actively engaged in the work; if it be objected that everything has not been done wisely and well; we answer that faults, if any there be, have certainly been errors of the judgment, and not of the heart. We will plead in their extenuation our motives and our aims. We, your agents and representatives, have not spared our shoulders from the burthen. We have freely given to the object no mean share of our time and of our money, and some of us have cheerfully embarked in the venture the hopes of a life.

What now, at this juncture, let me ask, is to be done? Is this edifice to pass away from us? Is this Parish of Grace Church to come to an ignominious end, or to drag out a feeble and precarious existence for the future? Have we the heart to sever the tender associations of the past, and sacrifice such an investment of love, labour and joyful anticipation? Shall a few thousand dollars which can be readily given, be the stumbling block on which we are to fall and perish? Is not the consideration too small and pitiful for a sacrifice so immense? I ask you, my brethren, to weigh this matter in the balance of a just estimate. It has come to be emphatic-

ally a personal question with every family and individual of the Parish. Failure or success may depend upon the decision of the reader of this appeal. If any considerable number of those whom it reaches shall fail to respond to it in a generous spirit, all effort on our part will be for nought and in vain.

It will not be out of place here, my brethren, to remind you, as regards the expense of what has already been accomplished, that the amount thus far actually raised by the congregation and expended upon the structure, is rather less than \$30,000, consisting only of what was collected upon the original subscriptions; so that, with the sum which it is now proposed to raise, the whole amount necessary to its complete use and occupancy, will not exceed \$52,000. Considering the size of the building, the style of its architecture, the thorough and substantial manner in which every part of the work has been executed, it is believed that in point of economy it will compare favorably with any similar edifice in the land. And surely it will not be a matter of regret, either to us or to our children, in after years, that we have thus endeavoured to erect a Church worthy of our beautiful city; worthy of our Parish; and not an unsuitable offering, as we trust, to Him who has crowned us with so many blessings of His love and goodness.

Let me suggest to those who have already liberally aided this enterprise (and whose liberality, by their Pastor at least, will always be held in grateful remembrance) whether the greatness of the exigency will not warrant and prompt a still higher liberality. Let me remind those who have heretofore contributed nothing (and not a few such there are) of the solemn responsibility which cannot but attach to *them* in a crisis like this. Let me also say, and I do it with the sincerest pleasure, to all of moderate and even of humble means, that an opportunity will now be offered for *their* contributions; that however small they may be, they will

not be despised, but, on the contrary, are earnestly solicited, and will be cordially welcomed, as an evidence of piety and good will, which shall, by no means, lose its appropriate and abundant reward.

My beloved parishioners, I commit this great enterprise into your hands, and shall anxiously await the result. For almost six years I have labored among you in the cause of the Gospel and the Church. Whether I shall be permitted to renew my labors, and how long it may be before I may be called to give an account of them, is known only to Him who knoweth all things from the beginning, and who doeth all things well. judgment, and His mercy, I commit myself and my stewardship. The cause for which I plead with all my heart, is very dear to me, as I doubt not it is dear to you. I will not say what I may have done or left undone in its behalf. Its final issue rests with you; God grant that it may meet at your hands a reception as cordial and as generous as its merits deserve; and may the richest blessing of our Heavenly Father be with you now and always.

> Your affectionate Pastor, John J. Brandegee

September 1859

To the Members of Grace Church, Utica

I employ this method, my dear Friends and Parishioners, to give you a statement of the result of our efforts within the last year, to reduce our Church debt, in the hope, by God's blessing, that thus coming immediately under the eye, and subjected to the calm and thoughtful reflection of every individual in the Parish, it may be the means of quickening your interest, and of forwarding more effectually, the desirable object we have in view.

Ten months have elapsed since we commenced our Sunday collections for the gradual reduction of the Church debt, which at that time amounted to \$10,000. Excluding from our plan the first and second Sundays of the months which were devoted to different charities, we have made our collections regularly on every other Sunday, with some necessary exceptions, with the following result. I note them, for your better satisfaction, in detail:

Offerings

January	18th 26th	\$ 50.00 37.40	May June	31st 21st	\$ 37.09 30.20
February	15th	3 8. 79	"	28th	28.80
"	22nd	33.16	July	19th	28.47
March	15th	42.01	"	26th	29.88
??	22nd	39.70	August	16th	19.86
??	29th	31.01	"	23rd	32.29
April 5th	, Easter	91.47	"	30th	21.62
** *** ***	19th	31.69	Septembe	er 20th	28.60
22	2 6th	35.42	October	18th	38.26
May	17th	61.88	,,,	25th	22.62

Making a total of Collections

\$810.22

To which should be added for the same object, the very handsome and cheerfully contributed sum of \$170.50 from the Sunday School children, as the result of their year's offerings on Whitsunday, and the further contribution of \$158 from the Ladies' Society, giving as applicable to this purpose, the entire sum of contributions:

\$1,138.72

Which with interest in the Savings Bank

12.88

Makes altogether

\$1,151.60

The loan of \$10,000, which was originally taken for five years, became due on the third of November, 1863, thus furnishing the opportunity of paying off \$1,000 of the principal, which has already been done, and of



THE Rt. Rev'd Charles Tyler Olmsted, D.D., LL. D., D.C.L. Fifth Rector, 1884 - 1899



reducing the annual interest \$70, and also of effecting a new and advantageous arrangement for the future with the gentleman who so kindly lent us this money in our time of need, and who, though not a member of the Parish, has always proved himself its warm and liberal friend.

Under this new plan, we have the privilege of liquidating in November 1864, \$2,000 more of the principal of our debt; \$2,000 also in November 1865, and after that time, the whole amount, if we please, or such portion of it as we may elect year by year. This, you will observe, places the whole matter very much at our disposal and enables us to invest our collections every year in the extinguishment of the debt, and in the reduction of the interest.

Providence seems thus to have favored us at every point in this enterprise, so that we cannot fail of ultimate success, if we are only true to ourselves. Is it, indeed, too much to ask, or to expect, that five years from the first inception of this effort shall see our beloved Parish entirely freed from every incumbrance and and source of anxiety, and enabled to go on in the noble work which is evidently set before it, to its own great honor, and to the glory of God and His Church. I am confident that we shall all labor with new zeal and hope to accomplish this blessed end.

Encouraging as our past experience has been, it is quite evident that very much more can be done, and that without difficulty or the sense of burden to any. Would it not be comparatively easy to double the amount of our Collections every Sunday that they are taken for this object, if all would do their Christian duty in the matter according to their means and good will? Could we not readily, in such a Parish as ours, raise \$2,000 before next November, towards liquidating the amount provided to be met at that time? If the sums put upon the plate were not in any case mere formal or inadequate offerings, but prompted in every

member of the congregation by a sincere interest and a generous liberality, from each of his ability, and fairly proportioned to the claims of such a charity as this, would they not immediately and largely increase to our great satisfaction and encouragement, and who can doubt provoking upon us in bountiful measure the rich blessings of that God who loveth cheerful and liberal givers!

Brethren beloved, I commend the whole subject to your serious consideration. It is one that concerns and ought to interest you all. This Parish Church of ours, whether we sufficiently realize it or not, is the fountain of invaluable blessings to ourselves, to our families, and to the whole community. Here the Gospel is faithfully, if inadequately preached. Here the Holy Sacraments are continually administered. Around this centre cluster some of the most hallowed associations and the loftiest hopes of our common humanity. come to leave its pleasant places, and pass on, as who shall say how soon we may, to our future home and reckoning, we shall not regret what we have done for its welfare; O let it not be charged upon us at the last, that we have left undone in connection with it, some of our most obvious and imperative duties. With a united heart and aim, and with a large and steady hand that grudges not its gifts, let us, thankful for the past, encouraged by so many evident tokens of the Divine favor, go on to promote, and fully to complete our appointed work and labor of love.

Excuse me, brethren, for so long an exhortation. It is in my heart to say even more, but I will content myself with committing this statement and appeal to your consciences and to your affections. Throw it not aside with indifference, or a careless perusal. Bear it in mind as from time to time you make your offerings to this object in the Temple of the Lord, and let not the ensuing year pass away with a less bountiful charity than

you would wish it to have been, if this should prove the last seed time for the eternal harvest.

Your Friend and Pastor,

John J. Brandegee

November, 1863

Utica, March 18, 1864

To the Members of Grace Church, Utica

The subscription to remove the debt of Grace Church amounts at the present time to about \$7,500. It is reasonable to suppose that before Easter it will be somewhat increased by further additions, and it is confidently believed that the collection to be taken upon that Festival will bring it to \$8,500, the total amount of the debt.

The terms of the subscription, being thus virtually complied with, the Vestry would request of subscribers, according to the provision of the subscription, that they place the amounts respectively subscribed by them on the plate in Church, on the morning of Easter Day, March 27th, either in cash with their names attached thereto, or in notes payable before the first of May next, to the order of "George R. Perkins, Treasurer," with such other sums as they shall choose to give at the time of making the collection. Members of the Parish who have not signed the subscription will have an opportunity of contributing according to their ability and good will. It will be necessary that a considerable amount be made up in this way, and all sums will be gladly received. It is earnestly hoped that every one will esteem it both a duty and privilege to help in securing such a desirable result as that for which these free will offerings are solicited.

It is especially requested that the offerings in every case shall have the name of the donor attached to them,

and be put upon the plate enclosed in paper or in small envelopes.

By order of the Vestry,

John J. Brandegee, Rector

George R. Perkins, Treasurer

In the autumn of 1864, the Rev'd Edwin M. Van Deusen, D.D., of St. Peter's Church, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, accepted a call to Grace Church, and his rectorship proved to be the longest in the history of the Parish, continuing as it did for twenty years. The new church having now been consecrated, when the new Rector came it was possible for the Parish to give attention to other things besides its own equipment, and to reach out beyond its own immediate borders. Grace Church, even to the present moment, has always been a missionary church.

Through the gift of a piece of property on Columbia Street by Mr. Truman K. Butler, a parishioner, St. Luke's Home for aged women was started, to which was added shortly St. Luke's Hospital. Another splendid missionary project was in the establishment of St. Luke's Church, in the western part of Utica, to which Dr. Van Deusen himself contributed largely, and made the Church a memorial to his daughter, Mrs. Gazzam. It was at this time also that the mission work in East Utica was undertaken, not by the Rector and Vestry, but by several of the ladies of Grace Church under the leadership of Mrs. Brandegee. At first it was known as the Chapel of the Good Shepherd, but later became the self-supporting Parish of the Holy Cross.

One of the important events of Dr. Van Deusen's rectorship was the introduction of the vested choir, which took place in 1882. It was the first of its kind in the Diocese. Those who remember the prejudices of people fifty years ago against any innovation in ritual will understand the terrible apprehensions which arose



The. Rev'd William W. Bellinger, D. D. Sixth Rector, 1899 - 1908



upon the appearance of the new choristers vested in cassock and surplice. The changes from the quartet in the gallery to the procession of vested choir marching in with hymns created a good deal of opposition. Many good people were actually startled and they did not hesitate to lift up their voices against the new practice. But that soon passed away and now practically every Episcopal Church in the world has such a choir.

Here it must be noted that on May 1, 1884 Mr. J. Francis Day assumed the position of Choirmaster and continued in that place for a quarter of a century, resigning at the end of that period on May 1, 1909. Mr. Day did more than any one person to establish the splendid tradition which Grace Church has had for great and perfectly rendered music. Moreover, the influence which he exerted over the minds of hundreds of boys and young men and the part he played in the formation of their character can never be exaggerated, and the far reaching effects are evident to-day among men whom he trained.

Dr. Van Deusen's health began to fail in 1883, and in February of the following year he resigned and retired to Maryland where he died at the home of his son in 1891.

In April 1884 the Rev'd Charles Tyler Olmsted was called from Trinity Chapel, New York, to take up his work as Rector and he entered upon his duties on Whitsunday, June 1st. Before his arrival the vestry had accepted the generous offer of Mrs. James Watson Williams to make certain additions to the church, such as a steam heating plant, a sacristy, Rector's study, et cetera, and the rearrangement of the pews to accord with the original plan of the architect. Some ten years earlier, during Dr. Van Deusen's time, Mrs. Williams had built the stone spire above the tower, which had been left unfinished. Now she began a series of improvements and restorations which continued on from

time to time, not only during her life, but throughout the lifetime of her daughter, Maria Watson Williams Proctor.

Part of the work was done in the autumn of 1884 and the spring of 1885, the congregation worshiping in the Chapel while the church was being altered. Again in 1888 by the same benefactor, the new Choir Room was built, and again in 1890 the old Chancel was taken down and the present enlarged and beautiful one put in its place. It was at this time also that the new organ was given by the congregation, at a cost of \$10,000. Chambers were provided for it on both sides of the Chancel. The first service in the new structure was held on Christmas Day.

In the autumn of that year, 1890, the Rector, with his assistant, the Rev'd William Cooke, later Archdeacon of the Diocese, and with the help of the Chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew of the Parish, began a mission work in the southern part of the city, which later became St. Andrew's Parish and which during the last few years amalgamated with old Trinity Parish, taking this name. This is the third self-supporting Parish in Utica which owes its existence to Grace Church.

During the rectorship of Dr. Olmsted the Parish became well organized through various activities. The Altar Society, the Woman's Auxiliary and the Ladies' Volunteer Choir had been started under the previous Rector. Now followed the Employment Society, the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, the Girls' Friendly and the Ladies' Aid Society. With the exception of two of these, all are still active and flourishing today.

In the spring of 1899 the Rector, Dr. Olmsted, having served the Parish faithfully for fifteen years was called back to New York to become Vicar of St. Agnes' Chapel in Trinity Parish. Three years later he returned to Central New York as the Bishop-Coadjutor and in 1904 he became second Bishop of Central New York.

Later in October, 1899, the Rev'd William W. Bellinger, D. D., at that time Rector of St. Mary's Church, Brooklyn, accepted the call to the rectorship and entered upon his duties. Dr. Bellinger's gifts for pastoral work and for preaching, following the periods of organization which preceded his coming, gradually molded Grace Church into one of the great Parishes of the Church. He was first and foremost a faithful and devoted shepherd of the people. Especially in times of trouble or sickness his unusual ability to comfort and help, his almost superhuman understanding of human needs and frailties, made him a man sought after not only by his own members but by the people of the city outside his Parish. His influence through his pastoral work is still felt here, though two generations have passed since he was among us. But apart from being a friend in time of distress, his indefatigable parish calling had a tremendous effect in bringing many to the feet of Christ and His Church. Thus the Parish of Grace Church grew.

Likewise in his preaching, Dr. Bellinger was a man of power. (He still is; we use the past tense because naturally we are thinking of his work in Utica.) His wide pastoral experience made his sermons full of human interest, while his gift for figure and metaphor and above all his unfailing sense of humor made an impression upon all his hearers which they never forgot. He was unusually blessed, for, in addition to these qualities, he had been endowed with superb dramatic art and oratorical ability. At the moment of this writing a woman of middle age related to the writer an entire sermon which she heard Dr. Bellinger preach to children when she was not over eight years of age.

But lest the reader think that Dr. Bellinger's ability was limited to the field of preaching and pastoral work, we cannot finish this brief summary without commenting upon his scholarship, his efficiency as administrator and—in the larger affairs of the Church—his statesman-

ship. Like Napoleon he is a little man in stature, but a great man in every one of the other measures of life. Needless to say, Grace Church prospered under his care.

In the fall of 1908 the Rector, like his predecessor, was called to be Vicar of St. Agnes' Chapel in New York, then one of the most prosperous, important fields in the entire Church.

The following spring the Rev'd Octavius Applegate, D. D., of Kingston, New York, took his place. Dr. Applegate's rectorship extended through fourteen years and was marked by real spiritual growth of the Parish. Dr. Applegate's claim to greatness is his deep, profound spirituality. If I might characterize the various Rectors by their most evident traits—without suggesting that each did not possess all in a very marked degree—I would say that the first four were organizers and builders, Dr. Bellinger, pastor and preacher, and Dr. Applegate, a spiritual leader. It is upon such well wrought and well laid foundations that Grace Church has been built.

During this rectorship the Grace Church Men's Club was founded. First housed in a well-equipped building adjoining the Parish Rooms, given by the Proctor family, it now occupies half of the third floor of the new Parish House, quarters as magnificent as can be found for a Church Club anywhere. In the last year, 1937, the Club celebrated its 25th anniversary, commemorating this number of successful, profitable years touching the lives of many older men and youth. During the years of Dr. Applegate's rectorship the endowment fund of the Parish was increased largely. He had the vision to see that the usefulness of Grace Church was in understanding the changing conditions of the city and contenting itself to become a down-town church. He saw that this type of a parish needs substantial endowments, and he worked steadily with this in view.



The Rev'd Octavius Applegate, D. D. Seventh Rector, 1909 - 1923



Dr. Applegate was an extremely modest priest, very humble by nature, shunning any kind of publicity. With these real priestly qualifications he maintained all that had been accomplished before him in the life of the Parish and he himself built well upon the foundations of his predecessors. He laid the superstructure of sound Christian and Catholic teaching which is so evident in the Parish today.

It was during this rectorship that the Sisters of St. Margaret were brought to Utica to work in the Parish. Here again we can judge the foresight and wisdom of the Rector by looking back from our position today to all that the Sisters have done to strengthen the spiritual life of the Parish. Nor have they limited their endeavors to the spiritual side of religion. Minds, bodies, and souls of people have been their fields of labor, and their effect upon this community is apparent to everyone who thinks. First living in very humble quarters, the Sisters have enlarged their scope of activity until at present their fine Convent and House are not only their own home, but a haven of rest and peace for many aged, tired or ill women who need their care. Starting from Grace Church, the Sisters have done a vast amount of missionary, teaching and pastoral work throughout the Diocese. Through their influence and persistent instruction during the past years people innumerable have been brought to know the Blessed Lord and the comforts of the Catholic faith.

Dr. Applegate resigned his position of Rector in May, 1923, to assume a like position at Christ Church, Warwick, New York. He felt the struggle of a large parish telling on him physically, and desired work in a smaller field.

On January 1, 1924 the present Rector, the Rev'd Harold E. Sawyer, was called from St. Agnes' Chapel, New York, where he had been an assistant to the Rev'd Dr. Bellinger, to become the eighth Rector. He remains

the Rector of Grace Church to the present time. Because he is writing the present memoirs he, of course, cannot make any estimate of the present years. For the present record it may suffice to insert that during this rectorship the Parish House was built and equipped at the cost of \$400,000; the organs, one in the Chancel, given by the Parish in memory of our forefathers, the one in the nave given by Mr. Walter Jerome Green and his daughters in memory of Carlton G. Green; the entire church renovated and redecorated by the parishioners at the cost of \$85,000; the spire reconstructed and rebuilt by Mrs. Proctor at the cost of \$80,000; the Rectory bought at the cost of \$22,500 and additions to the Endowment Fund of \$292,781.37.

Nor has the progress been alone on the material side. Everywhere there has been evidenced a fine growth in interest along many lines. The communicant strength of the Parish has increased by one-half, the Sunday School by one hundred per cent. We cannot pass unnoticed the deep spiritual growth apparent everywhere. The teaching emphasis on the fundamental truths of the Incarnation and the Atonement of Our Lord and on their extension through the Sacraments, and especially upon the Sacrament of the Altar, has brought forth much fruit in the enrichment of the lives of our people. The establishment of the daily Eucharist a year ago has created a spiritual atmosphere, the far-reaching effect of which it is hard to estimate. The number of communions made is steadily increasing. All these things make us look up and take courage and pray that God may grant an even greater blessing to Grace Church in the future.

Whatever he has been able to accomplish during these fourteen and a half years has been due to the loyal devotion and the unlimited cooperation of his people in the Parish and of its Vestry. They have held up his hands at every turn, have given untold assistance in every conceivable way, and above all have shared with

him the vision of a greater Grace Church in the future. He cannot thank his friends here as he would like for fear of appearing fulsome, but he must say that from the moment of his arrival in Utica to the present time he has not had one moment of anything but happiness, pride and joy in his work as pastor of the magnificent group of men, women, boys and girls around him in beloved Grace Church.

It would be most unfitting to close this historical memoir of Grace Church without giving a large amount of credit for its upbuilding to the faithful and conscientious assistant ministers who have so devotedly supported the Rectors, in their generations. The real success of this Church has been in the constant daily parish visiting which has been carried on here. Of course a large amount of this has been done by the curates. Beside this they have gone on quietly and unostentatiously doing the Lord's work in the numerous ways of the ministry in this city and are responsible in no small measure for the place Grace Church occupies here.

Before the election of the first Rector Rev'd Stephen McHugh Rev'd John C. Rudd, D. D. Rev'd Clement M. Butler, D. D.

During Dr. Brandegee's Rectorship Rev'd William T. Gibson, D. D. Rev'd William R. Harris

During Dr. Van Deusen's Rectorship Rev'd William R. Parker Rev'd Edward J. Lewis Rev'd William N. Irish Rev'd Gabriel Johnson Rev'd Richard M. Hayden Rev'd Robert Wicks During Dr. Olmsted's Rectorship

Rev'd Charles J. Clausen

Rev'd James E. Wilkinson

Rev'd Robert E. Campbell

Rev'd George H. G. Somerville

Rev'd William Cooke

Rev'd Julian E. Ramsdell

During Dr. Bellinger's Rectorship

Rev'd Daniel D. Waugh

Rev'd Harrison W. Foreman

Rev'd John A. Staunton

During Dr. Applegate's Rectorship

Rev'd William Curtis White

Rev'd Frank J. Knapp

Rev'd William Cooke

Rev'd John E. Wootton

During the present Rectorship

Rev'd Merrill Miles Moore

Rev'd Harold L. Andress

Rev'd L. Densmore Jacobs

and the present able assistant.

Rev'd Norman Butler Godfrey

As mentioned above, we have always been justly happy in our music. The Parish had the distinction of having one of the first "Boy Choirs" in the country, and for fifty-five years now this choir has served Sunday by Sunday without a break. It is one of our institutions of which we are proud. Its reputation has gone far, carrying the name of Grace Church to parts where otherwise it might be unknown. Responsible for this reputation are the several organists and choirmasters, men of fine calibre and musicans of the first class.

1838 - 1842 Eliza E. Leach

1842 - 1846 William H. Dutton

1846 - 1854 Thomas Davies

George Woodland

1854 - 1864	William H. Dutton
1864 - 1867	George Metzke
	William H. Dutton
1867 - 1869	Henry D. Danforth
1869 - 1871	George Owen
1871 - 1881	Henry G. Carpenter
1881 - 1884	Bertie G. Jarvis
1884 - 1909	J. Francis Day
1909 - 1918	DeWitt Coutts Garretson
1918 - 1922	Hugh MacKinnon
1923 - 1932	Norman Coke-Jephcott

J. Laurence Slater

1932 -

And now how shall we begin to enumerate the names. still more to tell of the interest and work of the men and women who have belonged to this congregation during the last hundred years. We have written of the original members who acted as organizers of the Parish. Thousands of others have given themselves, their time, their money and it is upon the living stones of their lives that Grace Church has been built. We can mention only a few who were men of unusual distinction. The Hon. Samuel Beardsley, the Hon. Timothy Pitkin, the Hon. Ward Hunt, the Hon. Alexander S. Johnson. the Hon. Hiram Denio, the Hon. Charles H. Doolittle. the Hon. David Wager, Mr. Charles P. Kirkland, Mr. James Watson Williams, Mr. George R. Perkins, the Hon. Charles A. Talcott, the Hon. P. C. J. De Angelis. There were prominent physicians like Dr. P. B. Peckham, Dr. C. B. Coventry, Dr. S. G. Wolcott, and Dr. William H. Watson. There were business men like Alfred H. Munson, Julius A. Spencer, Charles S. Wilson, J. H. Edmonds, Hawley Heath, Stephen Thorn, B. F. Ray, Thomas R. Proctor and Frederick T. Proctor. There were other outstanding men such as Simon V. Oley, George R. Thomas, William B. Jackson, William M. White and others too numerous to recall.

And in the words of the Book of the Acts, describing the early Christian Church there were "of devout women not a few." Among these ought to be mentioned especially Mrs. James M. Stocking, Mrs. David Wager, Mrs. C. P. Kirkland, Mrs. P. Lyon, Mrs. H. S. Cole, Miss Margaret Biggs, Mrs. Benjamin F. Ray, Miss Harriet Buell, Mrs. James Watson Williams, Mrs. Frederick T. Proctor, Mrs. Thomas R. Proctor, Miss Alice Barnard, Miss Julia Grosvenor, and Miss Mary Isabel Doolittle.

We, of course, have written only of those who have passed into the nearer presence of their Lord and even now are receiving their reward.

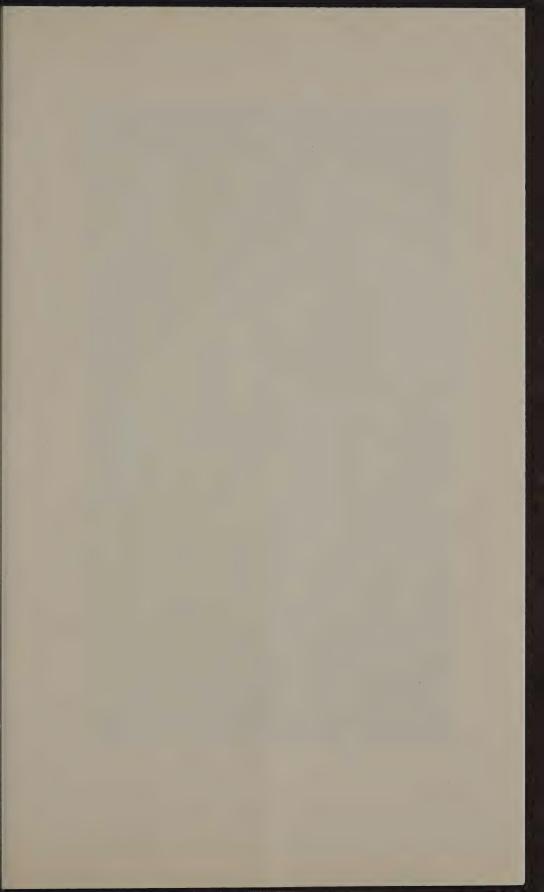
May the Lord bless them and keep them and may we who are following in their footsteps ever be worthy of the vocation which they have left us to follow.

"And some there be which have no memorial; who are perished, as though they had never been; and are become as though they had never been born; and their children after them.

"But these were merciful men, whose righteousness hath not been forgotten."

Now on this 21st of May, 1938, Grace Church stands as upon a rock, having weathered the storms and basked in the sunshine of one hundred years. Here she stands firmly in the midst of the business life of Utica, with her cross lifted high above her surroundings as if in the act of benediction. Her bells ring out the glad tidings of the Prince of Peace as day by day they announce to the city that the Holy Sacrifice is being offered within, with its prayers for the sick, the suffering and the afflicted as well as for the faithful who are too busy to pray for themselves. Her doors are never closed by day, but she holds out a welcoming hand to anyone and everyone who will accept her hospitality of prayer.

God bless you, our own, our dear, our beloved Grace Church.



THE STAFF

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Cromwell Woodward

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C. Barton Wynkoop, Chairman

Walter I. Green

Cromwell Woodward

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The Rector, Chairman

J. Francis Day

Walter J. Green

Frederic C. Ingalls

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J. Laurence Slater

Sexton
Peter H. Morris

Assistants to Sexton
James F. Allbright Ida Smith

Chimer Hieber A. Sutorius

Sister Sister Lydia Margaret
Sister Darthea Margaret

SERVICES

Sundays

7:30 A. M.—Holy Communion

9:00 A. M.—Holy Communion

9:30 A. M.—Children's Service and Sunday School

9:30 A. M.—Bible Classes for Men and Women

11:00 A. M.—Holy Communion and Sermon

(First and Third Sundays)

Morning Prayer and Sermon

(Second, Fourth and Fifth Sundays)

4:30 P. M.—Choral Evensong, followed by Organ Recital

Saints' Days

7:30 A. M.—Holy Communion

10:00 A. M.—Holy Communion

Week Days

7:15 A. M.—Morning Prayer

(except Tuesdays and Thursdays)

7:30 A. M.—Holy Communion

(except Tuesdays and Thursdays)

9:45 A. M.—Morning Prayer (Tuesdays and Thursdays)

10:00 A. M.—Holy Communion

(Tuesdays and Thursdays)

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Lois Swertfager
Lorraine Widrick

Muriel Wind

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J. Laurence Slater, A.R.C.O. (CHM) Organist and Master of the Choristers

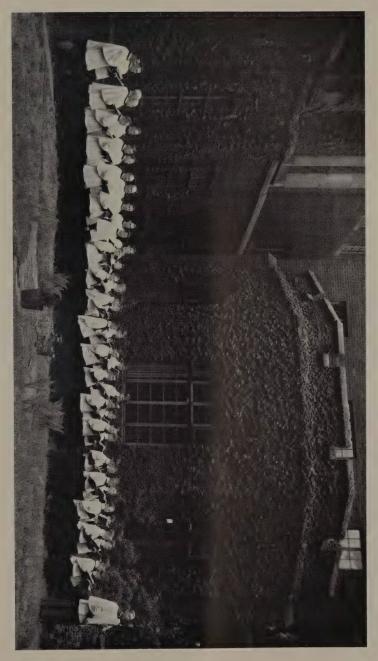
Boys

Wilbur Blake
John Bradley
Richard De Groodt
Daniel Dillon
Alvin Dockstader
Lorraine Donaruma
Vedder Driscoll
Roger Eaton
Robert Fraser
William Fraser
Lowell Griffith
Leonard Hughes
Alan Jamieson
Frederick Mathewson

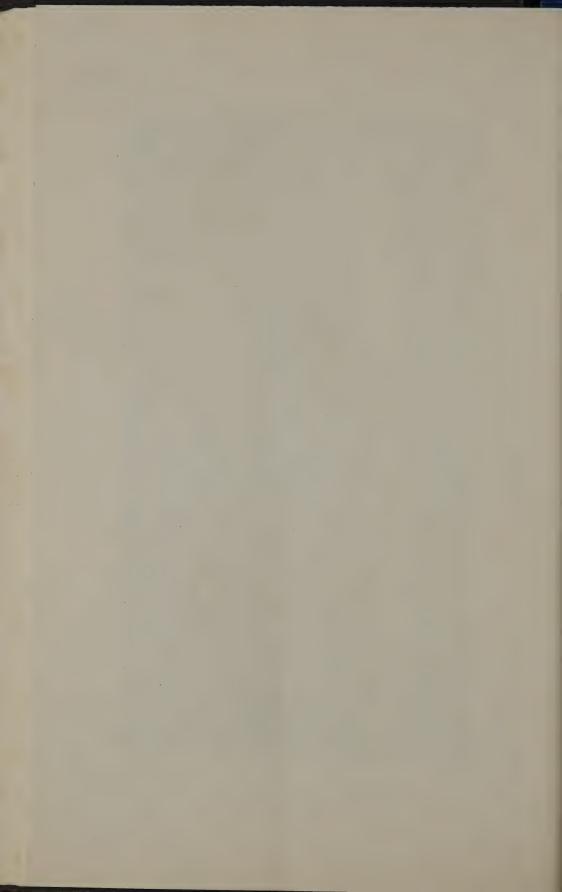
Donald Montana
Milton Ogden
Arthur O'Hanlon
John Owen
Howard Peckins
Ellis Richards
Robert Richards
Arthur Roberts
Roger Simon
Seymour Tanner
Russell Thomas
Harold Wienke
Roger Yount
Gilbert Yule

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Earl W. Laver
Francis A. Nichols
Arthur F. O'Hanlon
John E. Owen
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Winthrop E. Steinbach, Jr.
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THE CHOIR



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Mrs. Harry Turner
Mrs. Weaver
Mrs. W. Pierrepont White
Mrs. Irving Wilsey
Miss Mary H. Wolcott

Miss Anne M. Wotring

THE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY EVENING BRANCH

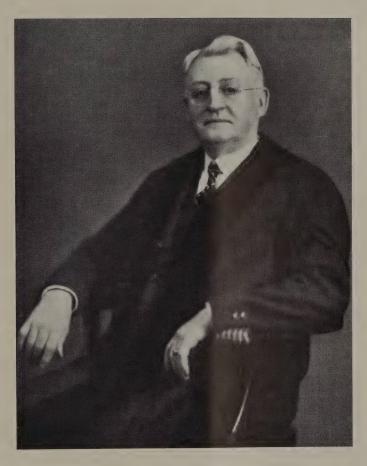
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Mrs. James W. Thomas
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Mrs. Harriet Y. Wilson



Mr. Peter H. Morris A Faithful Sexton Since Palm Sunday, 1902



MEMORIALS

Vestibule Windows—Mary Elizabeth Gazzam, 1841-1871; Martha Field Gibson, 1822-1863, given by her

husband, the Rev'd Dr. Gibson.

Nave Windows—Frances Beardsley Clark, 1822-1872, given by her husband, Erastus Clark; Hiram Denio, 1799-1871, and Ann Hubbard Denio, 1804-1872; Phoebe Hubbard, 1788-1871; Charles Hutchins Doolittle, 1816-1874, given by his wife, Julia T. Doolittle; Julius Augustus Spencer, 1802-1874, and Lucy Kirly Spencer, 1806-1873; Ziba Lyon, 1792-1883, warden of the Parish 45 years from its foundation, and Minerva Lyon 1796-1876; Charles Brodhead Coventry, 1801-1875, and Clarissa Butler Coventry, 1809-1875; Charlotte Beckwith Crouse, 1841-1876; William Bennett Jackson, 1820-1890, given by his wife, Cornelia F. Jackson; Mary Hinman, 1873-1877.

Transept Windows—Philemon Lyon, 1801-1857; Caroline Treadwell Leeds, 1821-1851; Mary Pitkin Denio,

1830-1851; Georgiana Perkins, 1840-1859.

Rose Windows—The Rev'd George Leeds, D. D., 1816-1885, second Rector 1843-1853; the Rev'd Edwin Martin Van Deusen, D. D., 1816-1884, fourth rector, 1864-1884.

Oratory Window-Margaret Davidson Miller, 1850-

1894, given by Mrs. Frederick Towne Proctor.

Chancel Windows—"To the Glory of God and in loving memory of Alfred Munson, 1793-1854, and Elizabeth Munson, 1798-1870; James Watson Williams, 1810-1873, and Samuel Alfred Munson, 1826-1881, her parents, husband and brother, this Chancel was enlarged and beautified by Helen Elizabeth Munson Williams, 1824-1894, who, called away before the completion of this work and labor of love, is now included in this memorial by her children."

Statuary—The first memorial in the Church was the Grace Elizabeth Munson Williams Monument. "This memorial of the first-born grandchild of Alfred Munson,

a member and benefactor of this Church, is here placed at the request of the Vestry, and under its protection and in special recognition of his zeal and gifts, for the advancement of the Parish and the building of this edifice, 1867." The second memorial was The Good Shepherd, given by the Sunday School and Parish, in memory of the Rev'd John Jacob Brandegee, D. D., 1823-1864, third Rector, 1854-1864.

The Pulpit—Ward Hunt, 1810-1886, given by his wife, Maria Taylor Hunt, and children, Ward and Eliza Hunt Johnson.

The Lectern—In memoriam: The Eve of the Ascension, 1873, the Morn of the Ascension, 1881, Alfred Munson, James Watson Williams.

The Altar Service Book—Charlotte Ann Barnard, 1830-1886.

The Altar Service Book Rest and Chalice Spoon—Sarah Thomson Watson, 1830-1881, presented by her children, Lucy Carlile Watson and William Livingston Watson.

The Altar Cross, Large Vases and Purple Altar Cloth— Jennie Nelson Hoffman Spencer.

The Litany Desk and Books—Harriet Esther Buell, 1819-1888.

Corona and Fund for Lighting—Ebenezer Brown Shearman, 1821-1890, given by his sister, Julia Tyler Shearman Doolittle.

Brass Tablet—Given by John Brandegee Wood, in memory of his wife and daughter, Sarah Miller Wood, 1845-1896.

Prayer Desk and Brass Vase—Given by Helen and Blandina Miller, in memory of their mother Mary Foreman Seymour Miller, 1807-1897.

Brass Vase—Rutger Bleecker Miller, 1805-1877. Brass Cross—Margaret Davidson Miller, 1850-1894. Prayer Book—George Perkins Miller, 1866-1892. Small Brass Vases—Florence Hart, 1849-1888. Brass Processional Cross—"To the Glory of God and in loving memory of Harriet Huntley Butterfield, 1831-1902."

Brass Processional Cross Rests—Theodore Butterfield, 1851-1900, given by his sister, Mrs. Charles H. Childs.

Brass Tablet—Alice Gertrude Lawrence Barnard, 1855-1904, presented by the Altar Society, the Volunteer Choir and the Girls' Friendly Society,

Brass Alms Bason—Charles Pinckney Kirkland, 1797, and Mary Walker, his wife, and their sons, Edward, 1834, and Charles Pinckney, 1841, given by Julia Pierson Kirkland.

Silver Baptismal Shell—George Richards Thomas, 1822-1887.

The Font—In memory of Henry Swartwout, 1809-1893, and his wife, Maria Lester Ketelhuyn, 1813-1898; also two brass vases, cross, prayerbook and table, given by their daughters, Mrs. Isaac N. Phelps and Mrs. W. Jerome Green.

A Pew—Julia Tyler Shearman Doolittle, 1823-1904, presented by her children.

Large Brass Vase—Christmas, 1890. Small Brass Vase—All Saints' Day, 1887.

Jeweled Silver Chalice and Paten—Helen Elizabeth Munson Williams, given by her daughters, Rachel M. W. Proctor and Maria W. W. Proctor.

Chalice and Paten—In memory of the Mothers, A. D., 1899.

Private Communion Service—Mary Frances Sherman, 1822-1896, given by her sister, Mrs. William B. Jackson.

Church Spire—Alfred Munson and James Watson Williams, erected by Mrs. James Watson Williams.

Sanctuary Rug—Helen Elizabeth Munson Williams, presented by her daughter, Maria W. W. Proctor.

Bells—1. In memory of Thomas Hill Hubbard, 1781-1858, "And one cried unto another and said, Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of Hosts; the whole earth is full of

His glory." All Saints' Day, A.D., 1870, given by Phoebe Hubbard, his wife.

2. Mary Smith Litchfield, 1825-1856. Frederick Denio Litchfield, 1869. "Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness." All Saints' Day, A.D., 1870.

3. In memory of Rev'd John J. Brandegee, D. D., ob., 1864, "And the bell shall be upon Aaron to minister; and his sound shall be heard when he goeth unto the holy place before the Lord." All Saints' Day, A.D., 1870.

4. Trisagion. "And they rest not day and night saying, Holy, Holy, Holy." Devoted to the Holy Communion. In memory of our grandparents, Nathan Williams, 1773-1835, Maria Watson Williams, 1782-1851, and Alfred Munson, 1793-1854, Elizabeth Munson, 1798-1870. All Saints' Day, A.D., 1870, given by Rachel Munson Williams, Maria Watson Williams.

5. Caroline Hubbard Wolcott, 1828-1867. "Make His praise to be glorious." All Saints' Day, A.D., 1870.

6. In memory of the children of the Sunday School. "In Heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father." All Saints' Day, A.D., 1870.

7. In memory of Anna Burnham Spencer, 1843-1845. Born in sin, baptised into Christ, and alive unto God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. All Saints' Day, A. D. 1870, given by Julius A. Spencer and Lucy K. Spencer.

8. Frances Huntington Wilson, 1860-1861: Nicoll Havens Dering, 1865-1869. "Suffer little children to come unto me and forbid them not, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven." All Saints' Day, A.D., 1870, given by Anne Huntington Dering Wilson.

9. In memoriam, George Pomeroy, 1836-1869. "In all things willing to live honestly." All Saints' Day, A.D., 1870, given by his wife, Mary Matteson.

10. Renwick Stanley Douglass, 1842-1852. "In memory dear," given by Dr. T. H. Douglass in memory of his only son.

Hymn Boards—Theodore Faxton Butterfield, 1826-1891, Theodore Butterfield, 1851-1900.

Pair Small Altar Vases—Elizabeth Blake Jackson, 1824-1874.

Font Ewer-Charlotte A. Barnard, April 15, 1886.

Ciborium—Blandina Dudley Miller. The Epiphany, 1912.

Vestment Cabinet-Mary Ferry Palmer, 1857-1906.

Eucharistic Lights—Given in memory of Rachel M. W. Proctor by her husband, Frederick T. Proctor.

Office Lights—In memory of Frederick DeWolf Smyth and Gertrude Hastings Smyth, presented by their son, F. Hastings Smyth.

Choir Door—A memorial to William H. Watson, given by his daughter, Lucy Carlile Watson.

Children's Altar and Appointments—David Wager, 1805-1870; Mary E. Wager, 1811-1904.

Chalice and Paten and Bread Box for use at Children's Altar—James Lancaster Morgan IV, 1893-1894

Silver Vases for Lady Chapel—Henry Walker Luis Fernandes, 1854-1924.

Nave Organ-Carlton G. Green, 1901-1928.

Chancel Organ—Many members of the Parish whose names appear on the Memorial Tablet and all others who have no specific memorial.

Chalice—Frederick Holbrook Calder, 1892-1922.

Altar Frontal—Given by Miss Mary M. Jackson in loving memory of Annie Jackson DeAngelis, 1854-1925; Angeline Jackson Krech, 1860-1932; Margaret Jackson Gardner, 1862-1935.

Ciborium and Cruet for Reservation—Clara Louise Heath, 1853-1925.

Table for Woman's Auxiliary Room—Given by Mrs. Francis M. Metcalf.

Altar Linen—Given by Mrs. William B. Crouse as a thankoffering.

Monument—In memory of Rachel M. W. Proctor.

Sanctuary Lamp in the Lady Chapel—Given as a memorial to Rachel M. W. Proctor by her sister, Maria W. W. Proctor.

Triptych in the Lady Chapel—Given as a memorial to Maria W. W. Proctor.

Memorial Funds

George Robert Perkins Memorial Fund.

Hugh Glenn Memorial Fund.

Caroline Shultas Crouse Memorial Fund.

William Sinclair Bacot Memorial Fund.

Ella V. Dering, Nicoll Havens Dering and Brinley Sylvester Dering Memorial Fund.

Sylvester Dering, Nicoll Havens Dering and Brinley Sylvester Dering Memorial Fund.

Helen Townley Smyth Memorial Fund.

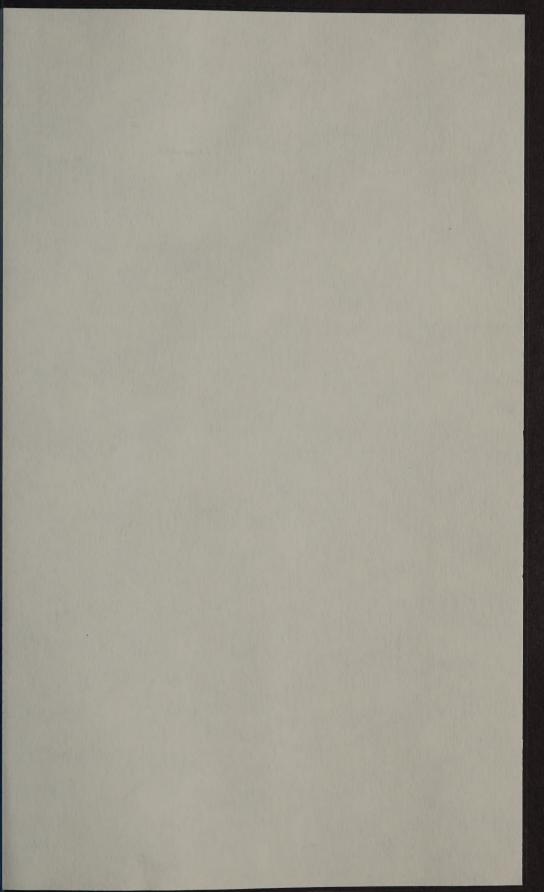
Charles Hamilton and Helen Eames Hamilton Memorial Fund.

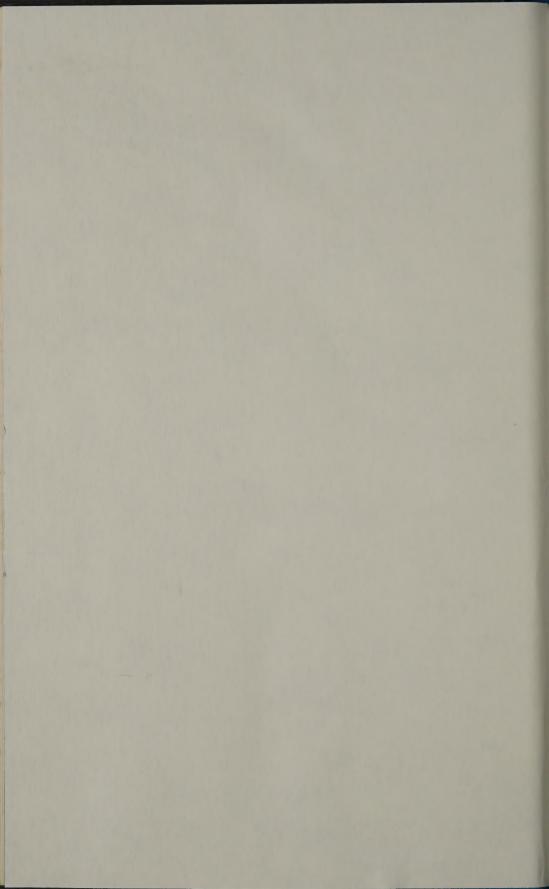
Charles and Jane Quait Millar Memorial Fund.

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